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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990s

United Republic of Tanzania*: draft resolution

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 45/206 of 21 December 1990 in which it endorsed the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and its resolution 48/171 of 21 December 1993, in which it decided to convene a high-level intergovernmental meeting to conduct a mid-term global review,

Recalling also its resolution 50/103 of 20 December 1995, in which it recalled that at the end of the decade, a global review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action would be carried out, in accordance with paragraph 140 of the Programme of Action and paragraph 7 (c) of its resolution 45/206,

Taking note of The Least Developed Countries: Report, 1997, prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[1] and of the report of

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.II.D.6.

the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action, which highlights the main developmental difficulties the least developed countries continue to face,

Also taking note, with appreciation, of the strenuous and wide-ranging policy reforms undertaken by the least developed countries, which have been implemented under very difficult conditions and at considerable cost and hardship to society,

Expressing serious concern that the least developed countries as a group continue to be marginalized in the process of globalization and liberalization and that they have not been able to achieve many of the objectives of the Programme of Action,

Noting with grave concern the negative trend in the flow of official development assistance to the least developed countries, their continued serious debt burden, declining share in international trade, and marginalization in world investment flows,

Taking note of the outcome of the Trade and Development Board at its forty-fourth session relating to the annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action, including its agreed conclusions and its recommendation to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session on the convening of a third United Nations conference on the least developed countries and its preparatory process,

1. Decides:

(a) To convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in the year 2000. The mandate of the Conference will be the following:

(i) To assess the results of the Programme of Action during the 1990s at the country level;

(ii) To review implementation of international support measures, particularly in the areas of official development assistance, debt, investment and trade;

(iii) To consider the formulation and adoption of appropriate national and international policies and measures for sustainable development of the least developed countries and their progressive integration into the world economy;

(b) To convene an intergovernmental preparatory committee by early 2000 to prepare for the Conference. That meeting would be preceded by three expert-level preparatory meetings, two in Africa, one of which would include the Americas, and one in Asia and the Pacific;

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[1] A/52/279.

2. Decides also that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development will be the focal point for the preparation of the Conference;

3. Calls upon all Governments, intergovernmental and multilateral institutions to take appropriate steps to ensure that adequate preparations are made for the Conference and to participate effectively in the above-mentioned preparatory meetings;

4. Requests all concerned organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and other relevant international and multilateral institutions, to make, within their respective fields of competence, substantive contributions and proposals for further action as submissions to the preparatory process of the Conference;

5. Encourages non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society and the private sector to contribute to the preparatory process of the Conference;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the ongoing coordinated follow-up to recent major global conferences contribute effectively to the preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, taking into consideration the actions recommended in favour of the least developed countries in the outcome of those conferences;

7. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to include in future issues of the annual report on the least developed countries substantive contributions to the Conference and its preparatory process;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure mobilization of the necessary resources for the participation of at least two representatives from each of the least developed countries, both at the preparatory committee meetings and at the Conference itself, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-third session;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session an item entitled "Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries";

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-third session a progress report on the state of preparation of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.